

Dear SIC Members and Supporters:

This issue of *SIC Clips & Quips* (Volume 6, Issue 8) is sent to call attention to information of special interest to School Improvement Councils, their members, and other stakeholders.

Have You Uploaded Your 2014 SIC Report to the Parents? – All SICs statewide should have already issued their annual *SIC Reports to the Parents* by **April 30th** as required by South Carolina statute. In addition to producing hard copies of these *Reports* for the school community, SC-SIC asks all local Councils to post an electronic version of their *Reports* on their school websites. SICs have also been asked to submit (by **June 1st**) electronic copies of their *Reports* directly to the SC-SIC office via the online upload tool on the “SC-SIC Member Network.” SIC Chairs and principals are asked to check the “Member Network” to see if their *Reports* have been posted online. If not, they’re asked to accomplish this as soon as possible. Have questions or need assistance? Contact SC-SIC Digital and Web Director Claudia Parnell at cparnell@mailbox.sc.edu.

SC-EPFP Now Accepting Applications for 2014-15 – The SC Education Policy Fellowship Program (SC-EPFP) – a 10-month professional development program for established and emerging leaders in education and related fields designed to work toward the implementation of sound education policy and practice in South Carolina – is now accepting applications **through July 25, 2014**, for the 2014-15 academic year. SC-EPFP operates under the auspices of the national Education Policy Fellowship Program (<http://epfp.iel.org>) of the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) in Washington, DC, which oversees Fellowship programs in over a dozen states and the District of Columbia. In South Carolina the program is coordinated by the SC School Improvement Council, located in the University of South Carolina’s College of Education, with the assistance of the SC Department of Education’s Office of Leader Effectiveness. SC-EPFP meets monthly September through June (primarily in Columbia) for a full day of dialogues, interactive exercises, small group projects, book discussions, and more. An overnight Leadership Forum is scheduled in the Fall and a four-day Washington Policy Seminar hosted by the Institute for Educational Leadership is held in the nation’s capital in April. Educators may qualify for recertification or certificate renewal credits, and graduate credits may also be available. For more on the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program, including additional program information, application materials and tuition costs, visit the SC-EPFP page online at <http://sic.sc.gov/sceducationpolicyfellowshipprogram/Pages/index.aspx>.

State Education Oversight Committee Needs Parent Input – The SC Education Oversight Committee (EOC) recently completed a cyclical review of the state’s education accountability system. To follow up on its findings, the EOC seeks to gather input from parents on the following question regarding the year-end assessments that children in grades 3 through 8 and in high school must complete in accordance with state and federal laws: *“To make sure that you have the necessary information to help your child succeed in school, what are the necessary characteristics of year-end state assessments?”* Parents are asked to go to the following survey link – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ParentsAssesments> - and take the brief online survey **before June 6, 2014**. Your input will be useful and appreciated.

Remember, *SIC Clips & Quips* is sent to all SIC members and supporters who share their email addresses with us. Please feel free to print out and share this information with fellow SIC members who may not have received it. We are here to help you, so please contact us any time!

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